

WE CLAIM:

1. A gripping and locking electrical grounding device for grounding single phase or multiphase electrical equipment to a ground buss to render the electrical equipment safe for servicing and repair, comprising:

at least one phase conductor;

a ground conductor being coupled to said at least one phase conductor;

a gripping and locking clamp device being coupled with each of said plurality of phase conductors and said ground conductor and having a fixed jaw and handle assembly and a moveable jaw being pivotally connected with said fixed jaw and a locking handle assembly and being pivotally moveable between an unlocking position permitting opening movement of said moveable jaw relative to said fixed jaw and a locking position securing said moveable jaw at a clamping position and relatively moveable locking components each defining lock openings that become positioned in registry when said locking handle is located at said locking position; and a lock device being inserted through said registered lock openings and preventing unlocking movement of said locking handle and thus maintaining positive clamping of said locking clamp device with respect to said at least one phase lead and said ground buss and maintaining the electrical equipment in safe grounded condition for servicing and repair operations.

2. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 1, comprising:

said lock device being the U-shaped locking element of a pad-lock.

3. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 1, comprising:
said lock device being an elongate member extending through said aligned lock openings and being locked against unauthorized removal.
4. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 1, comprising:
said relatively moveable locking components being said locking handle and a locking link of the locking clamp device.
5. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 4, comprising:
said locking link of the locking clamp device being a toggle link pivotally connected with said locking handle; and
an adjustment device being mounted to said fixed jaw and handle assembly and having adjustment engagement with said toggle link and being moveable relative to said fixed jaw and handle assembly for adjusting the position of said moveable jaw at the locked position of said locking handle.
6. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 1, comprising:
said lock device being the locking element of a lock having a lock body and being capable locking and unlocking conditions with respect to said lock body.
7. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 1, comprising:
said lock device being an elongate member of a lock extending through said aligned lock openings and being locked against unauthorized removal;
said locking link of the locking clamp device being a toggle link pivotally connected with said locking handle; and

an adjustment device being mounted to said fixed jaw and handle assembly and having adjustment engagement with said toggle link and being moveable relative to said fixed jaw and handle assembly for adjusting the position of said moveable jaw at the locked position of said locking handle.

8. A gripping and locking electrical grounding device for grounding single phase or multiphase electrical equipment to a ground buss to render the electrical equipment to grounded condition and safe for servicing and repair, comprising:

a plurality of phase conductors;

a ground conductor being coupled to each of said plurality of phase conductors;

gripping and locking clamp devices being positioned in mechanically gripping and electrically coupled with each of said plurality of phase conductors and said ground conductor, each of said gripping and locking clamp devices having a fixed jaw and handle assembly and a moveable jaw being pivotally connected with said fixed jaw and a locking handle being pivotally moveable between an unlocking position permitting opening movement of said moveable jaw relative to said fixed jaw and a locking position securing said moveable jaw at a clamping position and relatively moveable locking components each defining lock openings that become aligned when said locking handle is located at said locking position; and

a lock device being inserted through said aligned lock openings and preventing unlocking movement of said locking handle and thus maintaining positive clamping of said locking clamp devices with respect to said phase leads and said ground buss and maintaining the multiphase electrical equipment in safe condition for servicing and repair operations.

9. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 8, comprising:

said lock device being the U-shaped locking element of a pad-lock.

10. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 8, comprising:

said lock device being an elongate member extending through said aligned lock openings and being locked against unauthorized removal.

11. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 8, comprising:

said relatively moveable locking components being said locking handle and a locking link of the locking clamp device.

12. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 11, comprising:

said locking link of the locking clamp device being a toggle link pivotally connected with said locking handle; and

an adjustment device being mounted to said fixed jaw and handle assembly and having adjustment engagement with said toggle link and being moveable relative to said fixed jaw and handle assembly for adjusting the position of said moveable jaw at the locked position of said locking handle.

13. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 8, comprising:

said lock device being the locking element of a lock having a lock body and being capable locking and unlocking conditions with respect to said lock body.

14. The gripping and locking electrical grounding device of claim 8, comprising:

said lock device being an elongate member of a lock extending through said aligned lock openings and being locked against unauthorized removal;

said locking link of the locking clamp device being a toggle link pivotally connected with said locking handle; and

an adjustment device being mounted to said fixed jaw and handle assembly and having adjustment engagement with said toggle link and being moveable relative to said fixed jaw and handle assembly for adjusting the position of said moveable jaw at the locked position of said locking handle.